recharge. CGWB has employed advanced techniques of water spreading, injection well recharge and subsurface dykes for artificial recharge to ground water.

The impact assessment of demonstrative recharge projects carried out by Central Ground Water Board has revealed rise in ground water level in the range of 0.15 to 12 meter in different parts of the country.

(e) to (f) A demonstrative scheme on "Rain Water Harvesting and Artificial Recharge of Ground Water" has been sanctioned during Eleventh Five Year Plan. The scheme includes further development of area specific rain water harvesting and recharge methodologies as its objective.

Outcome of visit of Indian officials to Sri Lanka

*286. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Security Advisor and India's Foreign Secretary visited Sri Lanka to secure a ceasefire in the war torn Sri Lanka, between Government forces and the Tamils;

(b) if so, the outcome of their visit indicating details of the ceasefire agreement brought about;

(c) whether Government has taken cognizance of internally displaced Tamil population there; and

(d) if so, in what way Government is helping so that they settle back in their homes at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) to (d) The National Security Advisor and Foreign Secretary visited Colombo on April 24, 2009 to convey India's concerns about the situation in Northern Sri Lanka, particularly at the casualties caused among Tamil civilians as a result of ongoing operations. Following their visit, on April 27, 2009, Sri Lanka announced conclusion of combat operations and end to the use of heavy weapons, combat aircraft and aerial weapons which could cause civilian casualties. Sri Lankan Forces were to confine their attempts to rescue the civilians.

The National Security Advisor and Foreign Secretary visited Sri Lanka again on May 20-21, 2009 after the end of military operations and held talks with the Sri Lankan Government. The necessity of reaching a lasting political settlement was emphasized. They stressed that the Sri Lankan Government must focus attention on the issues of relief, rehabilitation, resettlement, and reconciliation. The President and Government of Sri Lanka have assured that Sri Lanka is resolved to resettle most of the displaced persons in their original homes within six months.

In addition to the humanitarian assistance provided to the Internally Displaced Tamil population in Northern Sri Lanka so far, the Government of India has earmarked Rs. 500 crores

for the relief and rehabilitation of the internally displaced persons in Sri Lanka. With a view to facilitating rehabilitation, Government is taking several steps including demining assistance, field hospital, medical assistance, shelter material and provision of housing and other civil infrastructure etc.

Tourist spots in Rajasthan

*287. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of main tourist spots in Rajasthan;

(b) the details of income accrued from them and expenditure incurred thereon during the last three years;

(c) the tourist (domestic/foreign) arrivals during the last three years;

(d) whether tourist traffic declined after 13 May, 2008 serial blasts in Jaipur and 26 November, 2008 attacks in Mumbai;

(e) the new places which are being demanded to be developed as tourist spots;

(f) the plans in this regard; and

(g) whether any proposals from Rajasthan are pending for clearance?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) Development and promotion of tourism and maintenance and upkeep of the State owned tourist spots is the responsibility of the State Government.

The number of tourism infrastructure projects sanctioned in the Eleventh Plan by the Ministry of Tourism are as follows:—

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No	Name of the Project	Amount Sanctioned
1	2	3
	Rajasthan	
	2007-08	
1.	Development of Shekhawati as a tourist destination	754.46
2.	Development of Floodlighting of monuments as a tourist circuit	800.00
	2008-09	
1.	Conservation, Restoration of Parkota and various Building Shergarh, Baran	461.44